

U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
SITE PROGRESS REPORT

Site:	Lee's Summit
ID #	64081
Break:	
Other:	

I. HEADING

DATE: May 14, 1997

FROM: Jim Augustyn, OSC
U. S. EPA, Region VII

TO: Paul Nadeau, Director (5203G)

SUBJECT: Ferrell Gas Chlorine Cylinder Site,
Lee's Summit, Missouri 64081

Report: 1 and Final

II. BACKGROUND

Site Number:	YB
Purchase Order Number:	7K0616NASA
Response Authority:	CERCLA, § 104(a)
CERCLIS Number:	MO0001900612
NPL Status:	Non-NPL
State Notification:	MDNR Emergency Response Referral
Action Memorandum Status:	Finding of Imminent and Substantial Endangerment
Start Date:	04/10/97
Demobilization Date:	N/A
Completion Date:	04/16/97

III. SITE INFORMATION

- A. Incident Category. Midnight Dump
- B. Site Description

40192999



SUPERFUND RECORDS

1. Site Location

The site is located at 1206 Southwest Market Street, Lee's Summit, Jackson County, Missouri 64081. On April 10, 1997 a leaking chlorine gas cylinder was abandoned on Ferrell Gas' property at the address mentioned above. Representatives from the company indicated the cylinder was abandoned by an unknown party and that the company does not produce/distribute chlorine products and did not have the expertise to safely handle or dispose of the cylinder. The site is unrestricted with residences located approximately 75 yards to the south.

2. Description of Threat

A single chlorine gas cylinder (approximately 150 lbs.) was abandoned at the site. The cylinder was leaking at the valve assembly and due to its deterioration the release could not be secured. The cylinder did not adhere to industry standards for size and dimension. Due to the unusual dimensions of the cylinder, a standard Class A chlorine kit could not be used by the Lee's Summit Fire Department to secure the leak. The leaking gas posed a potential serious inhalation threat to local residents. The leaking chlorine gas was being exposed to rain which could cause the valve assembly to deteriorate more rapidly causing a catastrophic release.

C. Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection Results

Mr. James Helgason, a Missouri Department of Natural Resources' representative, confirmed the chlorine gas release by using ammonia vapors and Drager tubes. In addition, every 3 to 5 seconds a gas bubble was observed forming around the valve assembly.

IV. RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. Situation

1. Current situation

The cylinder was removed from the site. No further environmental hazards exist at the site.

2. Removal activities to date

Request for assistance from Mr. Norm Brown, MDNR, was received by EPA at 1610 hrs, April 10, 1997. Mr. James Helgason, MDNR's representative, (816) 554-4100 and Mr. Gary Trigg from Lee's Summit Fire Department (816) 251-2350 were on the scene.

Due to the proximity to residential properties, the EPA OSC invoked the \$50K response authority and directed that the cylinder be removed from the site. The Lee's Summit Fire Department placed the cylinder in an overpack drum and the OSC transported it to a secure EPA facility.

On 4/11/97, Mr. Jack Ahern of the Chlorine Institute, (202) 872-4723, was contacted for assistance. Mr. Ahern recommended contacting Vulcan Chemical Company which is the regional representative to the Chlorine Institute. Mr. Tracy Winter from Vulcan Chemical Company, (316) 529-7216, provided the name for a response contractor his company uses for chlorine releases. Mr. Winter highly recommended the contractor due to the nonstandard dimensions of the cylinder and the potential for an ongoing release since the cylinder was not secure in an appropriate recovery vessel.

Environmental Management Inc. (EMI), from Guthrie, OK, was selected as the response contractor for this incident. EMI is the Chlorine Institute's response contractor for this region of the country. EMI has the technical expertise and specialized equipment necessary to recover and dispose of chlorine cylinders of various sizes and dimensions.

EMI mobilized on 4/11/97 to Dodge Warehouse in Kansas City where the cylinder had been secured by the OSC. The cylinder was placed in a recovery vessel and transported to EMI's facility in Guthrie, OK for disposal.

3. Enforcement

Markings found on the cylinder provided insufficient information to identify a PRP. No further enforcement actions are anticipated.

B. Planned Removal Activities

All removal activities are complete. No further removal activities are planned for this site.

C. Next Steps

No further Federal response activities are anticipated.

D. Key Issues

No other appropriate Federal or State response mechanisms to respond to the release were available. Prompt and immediate Federal action eliminated a potentially hazardous situation.

V. COST INFORMATION

	Costs To Date
ERRS Contractor	\$ N/A
IAGs	N/A
Letter Contracts	
Extramural Cleanup Contractor Costs	5,991
START Contractor Costs	N/A
CLP Analytical Services	N/A
REAC	N/A
Intramural Direct Costs	800

Costs To Date

Intramural Indirect Costs	1,660
Total Intramural Costs	2,460
TOTAL	<u>8,451</u>
Project Ceiling	11,520
Percent of Project Funds Remaining	26.6%

The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

VI. DISPOSITION OF WASTES

The chlorine cylinder was placed in a recovery vessel and transported to EMI's facility in Guthrie, OK for disposal. The cylinder was emersed into a sodium hydroxide bath to neutralize the chlorine and prevent any release of gas. The neutralization process produced approximately 100 gallons of a caustic solution which was neutralized and will be disposed at an appropriate hazardous waste facility.

cc:

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